

Notice of Allowability

Application No.
09/709,785

Applicant(s)
Murphy

Examiner
Arun Chakrabarti

Art Unit
1634



--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/9/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 92-108.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on Nov 3, 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the top margin (not the back) of each sheet. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. <u>0703</u> |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449), Paper No(s). _____ | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other | |

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DETAILED ACTION

Reasons for Allowance

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The present invention is directed to a method of identifying an agent that alters binding of an adenine nucleotide translocator polypeptide to a cyclophilin polypeptide, comprising:

(a) contacting in the absence and presence of a candidate agent, (I) a first isolated recombinant polypeptide comprising a cyclophilin polypeptide or variant thereof with (ii) a sample comprising a second isolated recombinant polypeptide that comprises a recombinant human adenine nucleotide translocator polypeptide or variant thereof, under conditions and for a time sufficient to permit the cyclophilin polypeptide, the adenine nucleotide translocator polypeptide and the candidate agent to interact; and

(b) comparing a level of binding of the first isolated recombinant polypeptide to the second isolated recombinant polypeptide in the absence of the candidate agent to the level of binding of the first isolated recombinant polypeptide to the second isolated recombinant polypeptide in the presence of the candidate agent, wherein a decreased level of binding in the presence of the agent indicates an agent that inhibits binding of an adenine nucleotide translocator polypeptide to a cyclophilin polypeptide and wherein an increased level of binding in the presence of the agent indicates an agent that enhances binding of an adenine nucleotide translocator polypeptide to a cyclophilin polypeptide, and therefrom identifying an agent that alters binding of an adenine nucleotide translocator polypeptide to a cyclophilin polypeptide.

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Although U.S. Patent 656,2563 (May 13, 2003) teaches a method of identifying an agent that alters binding of an adenine nucleotide translocator polypeptide to a cyclophilin polypeptide, comprising:

(a) contacting in the absence and presence of a candidate agent, (I) a first isolated recombinant polypeptide comprising a cyclophilin polypeptide or variant thereof with (ii) a sample comprising a second isolated recombinant polypeptide that comprises a recombinant human adenine nucleotide translocator polypeptide or variant thereof, under conditions and for a time sufficient to permit the cyclophilin polypeptide, the adenine nucleotide translocator polypeptide and the candidate agent to interact; and

(b) comparing a level of binding of the first isolated recombinant polypeptide to the second isolated recombinant polypeptide in the absence of the candidate agent to the level of binding of the first isolated recombinant polypeptide to the second isolated recombinant polypeptide in the presence of the candidate agent, wherein a decreased level of binding in the presence of the agent indicates an agent that inhibits binding of an adenine nucleotide translocator polypeptide to a cyclophilin polypeptide and wherein an increased level of binding in the presence of the agent indicates an agent that enhances binding of an adenine nucleotide translocator polypeptide to a cyclophilin polypeptide, and therefrom identifying an agent that alters binding of an adenine nucleotide translocator polypeptide to a cyclophilin polypeptide,

U.S. Patent 656,2563 is not a prior art in view of the terminal disclaimer submitted by the applicant on July 9, 2003.

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In view of the absence of either teaching or suggestion of such a method of identifying an agent that alters binding of an adenine nucleotide translocator polypeptide to a cyclophilin polypeptide, comprising:

(a) contacting in the absence and presence of a candidate agent, (I) a first isolated recombinant polypeptide comprising a cyclophilin polypeptide or variant thereof with (ii) a sample comprising a second isolated recombinant polypeptide that comprises a recombinant human adenine nucleotide translocator polypeptide or variant thereof, under conditions and for a time sufficient to permit the cyclophilin polypeptide, the adenine nucleotide translocator polypeptide and the candidate agent to interact; and

(b) comparing a level of binding of the first isolated recombinant polypeptide to the second isolated recombinant polypeptide in the absence of the candidate agent to the level of binding of the first isolated recombinant polypeptide to the second isolated recombinant polypeptide in the presence of the candidate agent, wherein a decreased level of binding in the presence of the agent indicates an agent that inhibits binding of an adenine nucleotide translocator polypeptide to a cyclophilin polypeptide and wherein an increased level of binding in the presence of the agent indicates an agent that enhances binding of an adenine nucleotide translocator polypeptide to a cyclophilin polypeptide, and therefrom identifying an agent that alters binding of an adenine nucleotide translocator polypeptide to a cyclophilin polypeptide, the present invention is novel and non-obvious.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Arun Chakrabarti , Ph.D., whose telephone number is (703) 306-5818. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 AM-4:30 PM from Monday to Friday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Benzion, can be reached on (703) 308-1119. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 746-4979. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group analyst Chantae Dessau whose telephone number is (703) 605-1237.

Arun Chakrabarti,

Patent Examiner,

July 10, 2003



ETHAN WHISENANT
PRIMARY EXAMINER